(d) The banks have been advised to ensure that their outstanding advances muder Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme should not be less than 1 per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of previous year. Further at least 2/3rd of DRI advances should be through rural and semi-urban branches and the share of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe borrowers should not be less than 40 per cent. The outstanding DRI advances of public sector banks as at the end of December, 1985 were 1.1 per cent of the total outstanding at the end of December, 1984 and the share of SC/ST borrowers in DRI loans was 51.2 per cent. According to the information available from Reserve Bank of India, the public sector banks as at the end of December, 1985 had routed 72 per cent of their total DRI advances through rural and semi-urban branches. These targets are to be met by each public sector bank through the network of its branches spread over a number of States and no State-wise target as such has been laid down under the Scheme.

Generation of atomic power

1071. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target of generation of atomic power in 1987-88;

(b) whether this target is likely to be achieved; and

(c) what are the new atomic power plants which are likely to be commissioned in year 1987-88?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The target of generation of atomic power for the year 1987-88 is 5560 million units.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The first unit of Narora Atomic Power Project is expected to be commissioned in the latter half of 1988.

Neglect of herbal plants by ICAR, ICMR and CSIR

1072. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a large unexploited potential of herbal plants for use and for exports which has been eneglected by ICAR, ICMR and CSIR so far, as reported in the 'Economic Times' of 25th January, 1987; and

(b) whether varietal improvement through somaclovea technique, tissue culture, bio-transformation, use of specific enzymes use of plant cell cateleyers etc. has been employed in our Labs., if so, what are the details of the results achieved, as reffected in out put and earnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) No, Sir. There has been no neglect.

(b) Yes, Sir. Systematic R&D work on a large variety of herbal plants has been carried out involving detailed evaluation of agro-technology varietal improvements, screening of the drugs for medicinal activities etc. Exact contribution towards growth of herbal plants and production of active principles has not been quantified. However, it has been estimated that production of medicinal plants and essential oils worth about Rs 23 crores was achieved as a result of technology transfer in the country by CSIR.